

City Manager's Blog

Deanna J. Santana

GENERAL INFORMATION

State of the City: Santa Clara is Well-Positioned for the Future: Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor and the City Council invite the public to attend the 2019 State of the City events this month. Over the course of three days, the events will take place at three Santa Clara City Library locations as well as a special senior luncheon at the Santa Clara Senior Center. During each event, Mayor Gillmor will deliver the State of the City address in which she will highlight how Santa Clara is well-positioned for the future. Members of the Council will join her as well. City Manager Deanna J. Santana will provide an overview of the City of Santa Clara budget and discuss major initiatives.

New for this year's State of the City is recognition of people and businesses of the year by district and citywide. The Mayor and City Council will honor a total of seven outstanding residents and seven businesses who give back to the community. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/stateofthecity.

Thursday, June 20
2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Central Park Library, Redwood Room
2635 Homestead Road

Saturday, June 22
1 to 3 p.m.
Mission Branch Library, Community Room
1098 Lexington Street

Friday, June 21
1 to 3 p.m.
Northside Branch Library, Community Room
695 Moreland Way

Thursday, June 20*
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Senior Center, Room 101
1303 Fremont Street

*The Senior Center State of the City event will be held during a special Senior Center luncheon. Presentation begins at 12 p.m.

Recruitment for Charter Review Committee: You can help shape Santa Clara's future by serving on the Charter Review Committee. The committee's focus is to conduct the public process to draft language for amending the City Charter with respect to council district elections. Right now, the City Charter only mentions at-large elections even though the City of Santa Clara held its first district elections in November. The committee is expected to meet from July 2019 through October 2019, although the schedule's subject to change. Applications are available [online](#) and must be delivered in person to the City Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. Friday, June 28. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/charterreviewcommittee or contact the City Clerk's Office, clerk@santaclaraca.gov or 408-615-2220.

Advanced Meter Initiative Program and Estimated Electric Utility Meter Readings: In an effort to modernize the system, the City is converting all 55,000 electric meters to smart meters. The Advanced Meter Initiative program has installed advanced meters for the last 18 months and is now 94% completed. Once fully operational, advanced meters will allow customers to monitor their usage in more detail and allow Silicon Valley Power to pinpoint power problems and outages allowing for faster responses.

During the conversion process, a number of concerns were uncovered by the City. These issues were mostly related to wireless reading of the meters, creating the need for estimated reads and estimated reads that were not clearly marked as such. Through multi-departmental efforts, these issues have been significantly reduced or eliminated.

As these concerns were being resolved, the City maintained communication with customers, through messages on the City Manager's bi-weekly blog, Nextdoor, and an article in the Summer 2019 edition of Inside Santa Clara newspaper. In addition, Silicon Valley Power has placed new information on "Estimated Electric Utility Meter Readings" on the [website](#).

For customers who closed or open their account in the first three months of the year and then received no bill or an incorrect bill, the Finance Department has sent individual letters to each customer explaining the errors and the adjustment. Payment arrangements that spread out payments as needed are available for customers who received unexpected higher bills. Customers in need are encouraged to investigate whether they may qualify for one of the rate assistance programs. More information can be found [online](#).

Annual 2019 Clean-up Campaign Survey: The City is requesting feedback on the 2019 Clean-up Campaign. Please complete this [short online survey](#) available from June 3 – June 21. For more information, contact the Department of Public Works at environment@SantaClaraCA.gov or 408-615-3080.

Challenges to the Census: What Does "Hard-to-Count" Really Mean? There are several challenges to ensuring that everyone living in the United States is counted. One of those recurring challenges is the potential for an undercount of specific population subgroups. Historically, some groups are missed at disproportionately high rates as opposed to other groups. An undercount in Santa Clara could result in reduced federal funding – for every person counted, the City receives approximately \$2,000 per person per year in funding from the federal government across many programs. Since the Census is only conducted every 10 years, this sets our funding levels until 2030! If we don't count everyone, Santa Clara could miss out on millions of dollars of funding over the next decade.

These communities are often called "hard-to-count," often because these population subgroups are hard to locate, contact, persuade or interview. In California, there are many communities that could be considered hard-to-count, including:

- Those without internet access
- Roommates and renters
- Foreign-born residents
- Adults (25+) without a high school degree
- Those below 150% of the poverty level or receiving public assistance
- Unemployed persons (16+)
- Limited-English households
- Children under 5

- Multi-family housing

Leading up to Census Day on April 1, 2020, Santa Clara will conduct outreach to the community with special consideration of those who may be at risk of an undercount. To see what this looks like in Santa Clara, check out this interactive map (<https://census.ca.gov/HTC-map/>) or visit SantaClaraCA.gov/census2020.

Recreational Staff In-Service Training: Santa Clara, we are ready! Over 100 recreation leaders and aquatic staff were trained this week in: health & safety, behavior management, program development, and working and responding to children and program participants who have special needs and how to be inclusive in our program delivery. Thank you to our leaders who are working with the public this summer! For more information, contact Parks & Recreation at 408-615-2260.

Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics: On June 13, the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics ran through the streets of Santa Clara by members of the Santa Clara Police Department. The torch was received from the San Jose Police Department at approximately 1:20 p.m. at The Alameda and Newhall Street. Santa Clara Police ran it down El Camino Real to the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety, passing the torch at approximately 2:40 p.m. near El Camino Real and Halford Avenue. Personnel from the police department raised \$2,350 for Special Olympics as part of this ceremonial run. Law Enforcement personnel from throughout Northern California are escorting the Special Olympics torch as it makes its way to the Summer Games at UC Davis on June 21. For more information, contact the Santa Clara Police Department at 408-615-4700.

Office of Emergency Services Offers CERT Training: A new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class began on June 8 at the Fire Training Center. Twenty students are committed to the 21-hour course and an additional seven participated in the free three-hour Disaster Preparedness component. The class was particularly inspired by one CERT student who was over 90 years old and fully engaged in the training activities! For more information on the CERT program, please visit the [Fire Department webpage](#) or call 408-615-4942. The next class begins on August 20.



Electric Vehicle Ride & Drive Event: On June 8, Silicon Valley Power held its first Electric Vehicle Ride and Drive Event. Nearly 100 people signed up in advance to test drive one of dozens of electric vehicles that were on hand, and many attended to check out the vehicles. It was a great opportunity for residents to learn more about electric vehicles and compare different makes and models all in one place. Over 120 test drives were taken and attendees had a chance to compare vehicles and get their questions answered.

Parker Substation: On June 7, Silicon Valley Power brought Parker Substation online, after 10 months of construction - an aggressive timeline for building a substation of its size. Parker Substation is the latest of 22 substations located in Santa Clara. It has a current capacity of 33 megawatts, with an ultimate planned capacity of 100 megawatts, which will make it one of the largest substations in the city. For comparison purposes, one megawatt serves an average of 750 homes. For questions, please email info@siliconvalleypower.com.



Crossing Guard Recognition Barbeque Held: On June 6, members of the Santa Clara Police Department honored school crossing guards with a barbeque lunch at Central Park for a safe and successful school year. Applications are already being accepted for the 2019/20 school year for crossing guard positions. The position pays \$15.00-\$17.21 per hour. To be considered, contact Community Service Officer Taylor Carpenter at 408-615-4875.

Hydrogen Explosion and Fire at Chemical Facility: On June 1, firefighters responded to reports of an explosion and fire at a chemical, gas storage and transportation facility near the 1500 block of Norman Ave. When crews arrived on scene at Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., they located multiple hydrogen tanker trucks on fire in the facility yard. Once firefighters confirmed no one was injured and the area had been evacuated, they switched to defensive operations with multiple ladder trucks flowing water from aerial master streams. Businesses in a two-block radius were evacuated or advised to shelter in place for approximately two hours. The fire was extinguished as of 5:40 p.m. Additional air sampling and thermal imaging was conducted to ensure air quality, and the hydrogen did not pose a threat. No civilians or firefighters reported injuries at the incident. The exact cause of the explosion and subsequent fire is under investigation. For more information, contact the Fire Department at 408-615-4900.

Santa Clara Works: On June 1, the Santa Clara Works event was held at Santa Clara City Hall to provide the community the opportunity to see the people, vehicles and projects that make the city work. From backhoes to vector trucks, and camera trucks to the Tap Water Express, residents got to get a closer look at what it takes to maintain the infrastructure in the city. Attendees learned how to compost their organic waste, how to conserve water, and how the City's fleet services works to maintain all of the vehicles and equipment used to serve Santa Clara. Participants were also able to visit the Santa Clara City Library bookmobile. For more information, contact Water & Sewer Utilities at 408-615-2000.



CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

Join the Center of What's Possible! The City is currently hiring for the following positions; to view job descriptions and for information on how to apply, visit santaclaraca.gov/jobs.

- As-Needed Instructor/Lifeguard
- As-Needed Meter Reader
- Electric Utility Programmer Analyst
- Electrician
- Information Technology Services Manager
- Journey Lineworker
- Librarian I - Reference

- Per Diem Police Officer Special Events
- Plans Examiner
- Police Officer
- Principal Engineer – Water and Sewer
- Public Safety Dispatcher I
- Public Safety Dispatcher II
- Recreation Leader III
- Recruit Police Officer
- Senior Electric Utility Engineer
- Senior Inspector
- Senior Plans Examiner
- Traffic Control Special Events

NOVA Job Center Workforce Review: NOVA is a nonprofit, federally funded employment and training agency that provides customer-focused workforce development services. NOVA works closely with the City to provide opportunities that address the workforce needs of Silicon Valley. NOVA provides a monthly publication called *Workforce Review*. The [May 2019 edition](#) of *Workforce Review* is available. For more information, visit the [NOVA webpage](#).

RESPONSE TO COUNCIL INQUIRIES/FOLLOW-UP

No items to report this period.

LEVI'S STADIUM RELATED UPDATES

Community Outreach Meeting Regarding Levi's Stadium Events for 2019: The Santa Clara Police Department hosted a community meeting for northside residents and business owners on June 6 at Don Callejon School. Topics discussed included the 2019 event schedule, event day transit characteristics, neighborhood protection deployment modifications, community concerns and lines of communication. For more information, contact the Santa Clara Police Department at 408-615-4700.

Upcoming Stadium Events

- June 22 - Stadium Links
- July 20 - International Champions Cup: Benfica vs. Chivas de Guadalajara
- Aug. 10 – 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys – preseason week 1
- Aug. 29 – 49ers vs. Los Angeles Chargers – preseason week

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Smokefree Multi-Unit Housing Workshops for Property Owners and Managers: On Feb. 5, 2019, the Santa Clara City Council adopted an updated Smoking and Tobacco Regulations Ordinance that expanded smoking restrictions in many public areas and multi-unit residences. Effective August 1, 2019, smoking is prohibited in multi-unit residences, including:

- Inside any new or existing unit of a multi-unit residence, including private and shared balconies and patios indoor and outdoor common areas, such as laundry and community rooms, gym facilities, courtyards, playgrounds, swimming pool areas, and parking lots within 30 feet from any operable doorway, window, opening, or vent of a multi-unit residence

The law applies to all properties with two or more attached units, including apartments, condominiums, and townhomes. The City hosted the first workshops on June 12 to provide information to landlords and property managers about their responsibilities under the new law and distribute “No Smoking” signage, subject to availability. Upcoming workshops include:

- Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 10–11 a.m.
Community Room, Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way, Santa Clara, CA
- Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 3–4p.m. & 6–7 p.m.
Margie Edinger Meeting Room, Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA

For more information, please visit SantaClaraCA.gov/smokefreesantaclara or contact the City Manager’s Office at manager@santaclaraca.gov or 408-615-2210.

Everett N. “Eddie” Souza Park Unveiling: Join us for the park sign unveiling of the Everett N. “Eddie” Souza Park (formerly known as San Tomas & Monroe Neighborhood Park) on Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m., located at 2380 Monroe St. For more information, please call 408-615-3140.



National Pollinator Week: The Pollinator Partnership has designated June 17-23, 2019 as National Pollinator Week. Pollinator species such as bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles are essential for our food supply, and provide significant environmental benefits necessary for maintaining biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. This year, you can celebrate pollinators by planting a pollinator-friendly garden of your own with native flowering plants, using less-toxic pest control products, and by participating in the [Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz](#) challenge while visiting Everett N. “Eddie” Souza Park (formerly known as San Tomas & Monroe Community Garden). For more information, please contact the Department of Public Works at Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov or 408-615-3080.

Composting Basic Workshop: Did you know that compost improves soil quality by adding nutrients and helps the soil retain more water? Composting also keeps organic waste out of landfills. In partnership with the University of California Cooperative Extension Compost Education Program, the City is hosting a workshop on Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., at the Everett N. “Eddie” Souza Park (formerly known as San Tomas & Monroe Community Garden). A master composter will teach residents how to build compost piles and apply the resulting material to landscapes and gardens. Registration is required. Register at ucanr.edu/compost or call the “Rot Line” at 408-918-4640. For more information, contact the Department of Public Works at Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov or 408-615-3080.

Silicon Valley BBQ Championship: On Friday, June 21 (4-10 p.m.) and Saturday, June 22 (10 a.m.-7 p.m.), enjoy a variety of barbecue-style food and samples, live music, arts/crafts vendors, beer, and wine at Central Park, located at 969 Kiely Blvd. More than 60 professional teams will compete in one of the largest barbecue championships on the West Coast. Proceeds support community projects in Santa Clara. For information, visit SVBBQ.com or call 408-615-3140.

Summer of Discovery Reading Challenge: The Santa Clara City Library kicked off the reading challenge for children, teens and adults in June. To complete the challenge, read five books or combine reading books and STEAM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) activities, such as drawing, exploring tide pools, visiting museums, discovering nature—any activity

that provides an opportunity for exploration and fun! On June 8, Central Park Library officially kicks off Summer of Discovery on June 8 with Python Ron's Reptile Kingdom at 12:30 p.m. and Hide and Snake Crafts at 2 p.m. Beginning July 1, readers can visit the library to pick up their prizes after they've completed the challenge. For more information, contact the Library at 408-615-2900.

Library Summer Concerts: All summer long, Santa Clara City Library has scheduled exciting family programs beginning with the Library Summer Concert series including:

- June 17, 7 p.m., Central Library Amphitheater: Asheba Caribbean Musical storytelling for kids, featuring calypso, the traditional music of Trinidad. All ages.
- June 24, 7 p.m., Central Library Amphitheater: Your Song My Song Jaime Lee Currier rocks classic kids' songs and funky originals to lead the entire family on a magical, musical journey. Join her and sing-a-long, jump, dance and move to the live music! All ages.
- July 1, 7 p.m., Central Library Amphitheater: Alp and Tayfa – Family-friendly three-piece pop/rock band.
- July 8, 7 p.m., Central Library Amphitheater: Peninsula Banjo Band Don't miss one of the North America's premier banjo jazz groups playing classic American tunes.
- July 15, 7 p.m., Central Library Amphitheater: Hands on Fire Join master percussionist James Henry for an interactive performance featuring unique tribal music.

Catalina II Residential Project; On June 25, the City Council will consider the Catalina II residential project proposed on a 1.7-acre site at 1433-1493 El Camino Real. At the May 22, 2019 meeting, the Planning Commission made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the project. The site is currently developed with two vacant auto-oriented commercial buildings, surface parking, and an unoccupied single-family residence with detached garage and accessory building. The proposed project is a rezone of the site from Thoroughfare Commercial (CT) and General Office Zoning District (OG) to Planned Development (PD) and Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map to construct 39 for-sale townhomes units, each with an attached 2-car garage, private street and guest parking. For more information on the project, visit the [website](#).

Gateway Crossing Residential Project: On July 9, the City Council will continue consideration of the Gateway Crossings project located within the Santa Clara Station Focus Area at the southwest corner of Coleman Avenue and Brokaw Road (1205 Coleman Ave.) At the May 21 City Council meeting, the Council took action to continue the hearing to July 9, 2019 so that the applicants, Hunter Storm LLC, could make modifications to the proposal including increasing the amount of retail area. As presented at the May 21 meeting, the project includes 1,600 multi-family dwelling units, a 162,000 square foot hotel with 225 rooms, 25,000 square feet of ground floor supporting retail, surface and structured parking, private streets, landscaped open space, on- and off-site public and private right-of-way improvements, and site infrastructure to support the development. The project also includes the dedication, development and maintenance of two parks, totaling 2.6 acres, with the largest park being 2.1 acres in size. For more information on the project, visit the [website](#).

Proposed Zoning Code Amendments to Modify Architectural Review: On July 24, the Planning Commission will continue their consideration, which began at the May 22, 2019 Planning Commission meeting, on a proposed amendment to the Zoning Code that would modify the City's review process for architectural and site design to replace the existing Architectural Committee review with an administrative public hearing process.

Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival Sept. 14-15, 2019: Located in Santa Clara's picturesque Central Park, the 39th annual Art & Wine Festival is preparing for a fun, family-friendly weekend brimming with over 165 local and national artists, three live entertainment stages, an array of popular festival food, shaded beer garden, local wines, Kids Kingdom, Toddler Town and more. Interested artists and sponsors may find information and applications online at www.SantaClaraArtandWine.com. For more information, call 408-615-3140.

Santa Clara Summer Camps: From sports to art to theatre, Santa Clara Parks & Recreation is your one-stop shop for children summer camps for ages 4-16 with activities including recreation games, swimming, field trips and making memories with new friends all summer long! Register online at SantaClaraCA.gov/Class-Registration. For more information, call 408-615-3140.

Summer Aquatics / Recreation Swim Now Available:

- International Swim Center (in addition to year-round schedule): Monday – Friday, 1:30 – 5 p.m. / Saturday – Sunday, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Warburton Pool: Tuesday – Friday, 1:15 – 4:15 p.m. / Saturday – Sunday, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Montague Swim Center: Saturday, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Mary Gomez Pool (operated by Santa Clara Swim Club for the City): Monday – Friday, 12 – 3 p.m. / Saturday 12 – 5 p.m.

Recreation swim at \$4/youth (17 and below); \$6/adult; Senior with City of Santa Clara Senior Card/free. Children under 10 must be directly supervised by an adult (18+). Swim lessons for all ages are provided at Warburton and Montague swimming pools. See the [Spring/Summer Activity Guide](#) for details or register [online](#). For more information on [fees](#), please call 408-615-3140.

Adventures in Learning Fall 2019: Programs for toddlers (ages 3-4), both morning and afternoon classes for fall session, begin the week of August 26. Learn through play with crafts, songs, stories, letters, numbers, outdoor play, socialization and more! [Register Now!](#) For more information, call the Community Recreation Center at 408-615-3140.

UPCOMING COUNCIL CALENDAR/AGENDA ITEMS

Visit the [Tentative Meeting Agenda Calendar](#) for dates of upcoming Council Study Sessions, Joint Council/Commission meetings, as well as Council Public Hearing and General Business agenda items online at [Legislative Public Meetings](#) on the City's website. As you can see, while tentative and subject to change, it provides key policy items that the Council/Board will need to dedicate time to deliberate and that may take considerable time during the upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,



Deanna J. Santana
City Manager